

Claims

1. A method for biometric authentication of a person, comprising the steps of
- detecting a person's biometric data and storing the detected biometric data as reference data,
  - determining a parameter with reference to the person's individual properties influencing the sensory detection of the biometric data, and storing the determined parameter to be taken into account in at least one of the following method steps,
  - redetecting the person's biometric data,
  - comparing the redetected biometric data for a match with the reference data, and
  - authenticating the person if the match reaches a degree above a defined threshold value.
2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the determined parameter is taken into account in the step of authenticating the person.
3. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that the defined threshold value is dependent on the determined parameter.
4. A method according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the determined parameter is taken into account in the step of redetecting the biometric data.
5. A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the determined parameter is used for adjusting a sensor system for redetecting the biometric data.
6. A method according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the person is granted limited possibilities of activity depending on the determined parameter.
7. A method according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the person is granted limited possibilities of activity depending on the degree of the match between the redetected biometric data and the stored reference data.
8. A method according to any of claims 1 to 7, characterized by the additional step of adapting a sensor system for redetecting the biometric data to the environmental conditions prevailing at the time of redetection.
9. A method according to claim 7, characterized in that the environmental conditions prevailing during detection of the biometric data as reference data are

stored and taken into account when the sensor system is adapted upon redetection of the biometric data to the environmental conditions prevailing at the time of redetection.

10. An apparatus comprising a first memory area with a person's biometric data as reference data and a second memory area with a parameter determined with reference to the person's individual properties influencing the sensory detection of the biometric data.
11. An apparatus according to claim 10, characterized in that the apparatus is a data carrier, in particular a smart card.
12. An apparatus according to claim 10 or 11, comprising a third memory area with information on the environmental conditions prevailing during detection of the biometric data contained in the first memory area.
13. A system comprising
  - an apparatus according to any of claims 10 to 12,
  - a first device for detecting a person's biometric data, and
  - a second device for comparing the reference data stored in the first memory area of the apparatus for a match with the person's detected biometric data and authenticating the person if the match reaches a degree above a defined threshold value,at least one of the devices being coupled with the parameter stored in the second memory area of the apparatus.
14. A system according to claim 13, characterized in that the second memory area of the apparatus with the determined parameter and the device for authenticating the person are coupled by the defined threshold value depending on the determined parameter.
15. A system according to claim 13 or 14, characterized in that the second memory area with the determined parameter and the device for detecting the person's biometric data are coupled by the determined parameter being taken into account during adjustment of a sensor system for detecting the biometric data.
16. A system according to any of claims 13 to 15, characterized in that the system contains an activity filter which is variable in dependence on the determined parameter.

17. A system according to any of claims 13 to 16, characterized in that the system contains an activity filter which is variable in dependence on the degree of the match between the redetected biometric data and the stored reference data.
18. A system according to any of claims 13 to 17 insofar as dependent on claim 12, characterized in that the device for detecting the person's biometric data includes a sensor system which is variably adjustable to the environmental conditions prevailing during detection of the person's biometric data depending on the information stored in the third memory area of the apparatus.